(d) During the course of investigation, the police has been able to identify some suspects.

(c) No, Sir. All the suspects in this case have been interrogated.

(d) No, Sir. The Crime Branch of Delhi Police, which is investigating this case, has sufficient expertise in investigating such cases.

Devolution of more powers to certain States

803. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering devolution of more powers to certain States;

(b) if so, what is the rationale behind the proposal and its salient features; and

(c) what is the time schedule envisaged by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India had constituted a Commission in June, 1983 under the chairmanship of the Justice R.S. Sarkaria "to examine and review the working of existing arrangements between the Union and the States in regard to powers, functions and responsibilities in all spheres and recommend such changes or other measures as may be necessary with a view to developing harmonious Centre-State Relations". It gave its recommendations on all aspects affecting Centre-State relations.

The Inter-State Council which consists of all Chief Ministers and Administrators of States and UTs, has considered the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and accepted/taken decision on a number of recommendations for devolution of more powers to the State Governments. These recommendations related to administrative, legislative and financial powers etc. to the States and are at various stages of implementation by the Ministries/Departments of the Union Government.

The Government is committed to continuing its endeavour to wide ranging devolution of powers to the States that lead to efficiency in administration, acceleration in development and fullest realization of the creative potential of all section of our people.

(c) Devolution of powers to the State is a continuous process and no time schedule for it can be fixed.